

LEPC Association  
Friday, October 21, 2016

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Meeting Minutes

**ALASKA LEPC ASSOCIATION**  
**Anchorage Hilton Hotel**  
**500 West Third Avenue**  
**Anchorage, Alaska**

**MEETING MINUTES**

Friday, October 21, 2016

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Scott Brown, Aleutian/Pribilof Islands LEPC  
Kevin Spillers, Anchorage LEPC  
Julie Harvey, Anchorage LEPC  
Stephen Jones, Bristol Bay LEPC  
Laura Thiesen, Copper River LEPC  
Michael Paschall, Delta-Greely LEPC  
Chris Noel, Denali LEPC  
Doug Fleming, Fairbanks LEPC  
Michelle Brown, Juneau LEPC  
Abner Hoage, Ketchikan LEPC  
Scott Walden, Kenai Peninsula LEPC  
Jack Maker, Kodiak Island LEPC  
Casey Cook, Mat-Su LEPC  
Tom Vaden, Nome LEPC  
Heather Seemann, North Slope Borough  
Linda Van Houten, Northern Southeast LEPC  
Billy A. Lee, Northwest Arctic LEPC  
Sandra K. Dixon, Petersburg LEPC  
Dave Miller, Sitka LEPC  
Brian Templin, Southern Southeast LEPC  
George Keeney, Valdez LEPC  
Jamie Roberts, Wrangell LEPC

**GUESTS:**

Michael O'Hare, Director, DHS&EM  
Mike Sutton, Deputy Director, DHS&EM  
Bryan Fisher, DHS&EM  
Jeffrey Lafferty, DHS&EM  
Ann Gravier, DHS&EM  
Kim Weibl, DHS&EM  
Chanelle Lauger, DHS&EM  
Rod Crum, DHS&EM  
Mariel Fonteyn, DHSS  
Gabriel Wolken, DNR  
Julie Harvey, Anchorage LEPC  
Jennifer L. Shockley, Unalaska

LEPC Association  
Friday, October 21, 2016  
Sara G. Garcia, Petersburg  
Corey Padron, Ketchikan  
Elena Powers, Delta Junction  
Elizabeth Burton, Fairbanks  
Harry Patkotak, North Slope Borough  
Jason Bishop, Kodiak

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I. **CALL TO ORDER - Co-Chairs. Mr. Brian Templin and Mr. Dave Miller**

Co-Chair Templin called the LEPC Association Meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

The LEPC Association members said the pledge of allegiance.

B. Welcome and Introductions

Co-Chair Templin welcomed everyone. The LEPC members introduced themselves.

C. Administrative Announcements from Co-Chairs

Co-Chair Templin gave the administrative and safety announcements.

II. **APPROVAL OF April 29, 2016 MINUTES**

**Abner Hoage, Ketchikan LEPC, MOVED to approve the minutes of April 29, 2016 as presented. Tom Vaden, Nome LEPC, seconded the motion. MOTION passed without objection.**

III. **APPROVAL AND CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

Mr. Paschall commented that at the last meeting they said they would decide what to do with the remaining LEPCA funds in the checking account, but he did not see it on the agenda. He requested that it be on the agenda for the next meeting.

**The AGENDA was approved as presenting without objection.**

IV. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. There was no old business.

V. **CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

A. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments at this time.

B. SERC Finance Committee update –

Co-Chair Templin reported that the SERC Finance Committee met in May to discuss the LEPCA share system funding that was approved at the last LEPCA meeting. The committee met in June to finalize the FY17 LEPC awards. They distributed approximately \$275,000 to 21 LEPCs and \$25,000 to DHS&EM for conference travel for LEPCs. They also redistributed about \$1,000 in turn-back funds from the FY16 grants. The Committee is currently working on revising the LEPC funding criteria.

C. Homeland Security & Emergency Management

Strategic Plans & Leadership – Mr. Mike Sutton, Deputy Director, DHS&EM, thanked the LEPCs for the work they do in their communities. Mr. Sutton went over some personnel changes in the division, including the new Plans Section chief who is Ann Gravier. A new unit is the Community Resilience Team. The Preparedness Unit has completed work on Alaska Shield 2016 and they are working on the new multi-year training and exercise plan. The new Operations Section manager is Bryan Fisher. The Disaster Assistance Team continues to be very busy managing all of the active State and Federal disasters. The Mission Support and Finance Team continues to support the other sections. Mr. Sutton also updated the LEPCA on the Division's three-year strategy. The final draft is nearly completed. They hope to have it published by the middle of December. The strategy ties all the Division's various sections' efforts together so they work as a unified team to accomplish the goals of the Division. It also aims to meet both the Governor's and the Commissioner's goals of expanding emergency management capabilities across the State with State agencies, local communities, and private citizens, focusing on rural engagement as well as supporting the U.S. Arctic strategy.

Operations – Mr. Bryan Fisher reported on two State disaster declarations that happened in August. One was the significant erosion on the Matanuska River near the Butte area. The other was a fire in the Village of Kotlik. He also stated that the fire season was much better than it was the prior year. They participated in Exercise Arctic Chinook in August which took place in the Northwest Arctic and the Norton Sound area. Under the direction of the U.S. Coast Guard and Northern Command, a search and rescue exercise was developed.

Preparedness – Mr. Jeffrey Lafferty reported on the section's activities in the last six months. They were involved with the Exercise Arctic Chinook, training, outreach events, etc. They were involved with the Southeast Alaska earthquake simulator tour which was a success. With respect to outreach, they have done speaking engagements with local clubs, such as Lions, Chambers of Commerce, etc. With respect to training, they have coordinated training for over 200 people. A gap they have noticed is they have many training/courses sessions offered at local levels where people have been admitted who are not fully certified to attend the training. For example, to attend the 300 course there are prerequisites such as 100, 200, etc. In the future they will be looking to see that people have the prerequisites. While they can attend the training, they will not be able to get the certificate. Future activities include participating in various exercises including hazmat exercise, Orca, Arctic Eagle, Lonesome Dove, and others. Alaska Shield will occur April 2019, with serious planning, concepts and objectives meetings occurring spring of 2018.

Planning – Ms. Ann Gravier reported the State EOP has been distributed. The 2016 Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment, State Preparedness Report (THIRA SPR) will be out the end of the year. On the earthquake simulator tour, there was also local LEPC business conducted as well as other outreach activities. The all-hazards committee resiliency team has been busy. She discussed new hires. She touched on mitigation projects that have been recently awarded, including the fire management assistance grants awarded to projects at Mat-Su Borough and Chugach Electric Association, as well as other funding opportunities that will be coming out soon. The pre-disaster mitigation grant 2016 projects identified for further reviewed were announced recently by FEMA, including a project for local mitigation plan development as well the 2018 state plan update. The Port of Anchorage’s seismic mitigation project was also selected for further review. The earthquake/tsunami program has been very busy as part of the Southeast Alaska earthquake tour, as well as they were at the open house for the National Tsunami Center in Palmer. They have also attended community meetings with Homer, Cordova, Kodiak, and Dutch Harbor. They held a tsunami operations workshop in Dutch Harbor. She reported they have received their 2016 NOAA grant and another workshop has been identified for funding. Six new Small Community Emergency Response Plans (SCERP) have been completed and 10 have been updated in the last six months. 64 SCERPs have now been completed. In response to Mr. Keeney, Ms. Weibl stated that the State EOP is on the State website.

Mr. O’Hare stated the Division continues to build a great team. In response to Mr. Keeney, Mr. O’Hare stated that with, respect to funding for the Division, Governor Walker and the Legislative are very supportive of their mission. Preparing Alaska communities for all hazards, disaster preparedness is a priority to the Walker Administration and to the Legislature.

## VI. LEPC VERBAL STATUS REPORTS

### A. Public Comments

There was no public comment at this time.

Delta-Greely LEPC – Mr. Michael Paschall reported the Division provided training with local leaders. They did not have any wildfires this summer. Responders responded to three fatal vehicle accidents this summer.

Denali LEPC – Mr. Chris Noel reported they held a successful tactical emergency/casualty care training by the Department of Health and Social Services. With respect to outreach, they partners with a homeowners association to some firewise mitigation. He reported that one issue being considered was mass notification, and they plan to engage with a vendor sometime next year. They switched dispatch services to the Fairbanks Emergency Communications Center.

Anchorage LEPC – Ms. Julie Harvey reported they have done a lot of outreach since the last LEPCA meeting. Things they are focusing on include individuals with functional and access needs, as well as anyone who might not be able to quickly respond if there is an evacuation notice. They are trying to work with groups within the community who already have their networks, such as the local Filipino agency, and

coming to their networks instead of trying to establish a new network. Other activities included getting public information out during the McHugh Creek fire. She stated that they do outreach in April and September (national preparedness months). They distributed the check list in the newspaper and received a lot of good feedback on it. They distributed a flyer in the newspaper containing information on who to call when something goes wrong that is not an emergency.

Fairbanks LEPC – Mr. Doug Fleming reported they had a lot of rain this summer, so while they did not have any fires, they did have some localized flooding. The city and borough worked closely with the flood control project to keep the flooding under control. The borough has been working on a new software program they are incorporating in the EOC which includes a map where they could do an overlay that would detail the localized flooding areas to work with the weather service and whoever had to respond. They participated in several exercises, included the 103<sup>rd</sup>-sponsored Van Winkle exercise (hazmat exercise). The borough has been working with the airport to start up their exercise, including some table topping. The airport is ready for their triennial exercise starting next year. The borough has worked on developing an EOC checklist and incorporating in with the software, as well as training the people that will work in the EOC. In the next couple months they plan to bring in outside agencies to do some of that training. They are also planning to incorporate a small-scale home medical exercise in that training. The borough has been recognized as the first in the State of Alaska to achieve storm ready status. Future events include Public Health will hold a POD exercise. The city has been working on volunteer donation management, community mass care, and planning for children in disasters. The city has been looking at their AAR and lessons learned from Alaska Shield and working on not forgetting those lessons, and bringing the police and EMS up to date. He discussed the incident that occurred recently where one of their police officers was shot.

Juneau LEPC – Ms. Michelle Brown reported they appreciated having the earthquake simulator visit. During the planning they decided to make it an all-hazards event and got the community involved. They came away from the event with 21 new volunteers. The police department has adopted a year of kindness event. People and organizations are being encouraged to join JPD in activities to bring people together. The LEPC is a partner with JPD in this. The LEPC is also partnering with the Red Cross on the home fire preparedness campaign doing training in homes and putting fire alarms and smoke detectors in homes. They participated in the Tlinglet/Haida caregiver's conference. She reported they now have an excellent school partner to help them get the word out when they do events. The Salvation Army got a canteening trailer this year, and they have been participating in different events. A POD exercise is planned by Public Health to distribute free immunization shots. She stated they learned a lot in the earthquake simulator advertising. She recommended that when starting to do outreach, plan at least a month ahead to have interviews with local reporters. She stated that over the past five years they have had some flooding issues with the Mendenhall River, so they are going through the process of figuring out the mitigation.

Valdez LEPC – Mr. George Keeney announced that he retired the end of August. The fire department has a new chief, Tracy Reiner. They also have a new city manager, Dennis Ragsdale. A mass inoculation drill and a mass feeding are planned for October 29. He reported they also have a new public health nurse, Terri Lynch. The fire department and EMS have been busy the last six months. He stated they now have a signed MOA with Alyeska Pipeline for fire and EMS response both on and off the terminal. They have also had flooding this summer, including a glacier outburst. He expressed his appreciation to DHS&EM for all they do.

Northwest Arctic LEPC – Mr. Billy Lee reported on the Arctic Chinook exercise. They brought LEPC members from the villages to observe and participate. It was a great learning experience for LEPC members. The Coast Guard went to the villages and did water safety with the schools. The LEPC has not met since spring but is getting ready to have one.

Ketchikan LEPC – Mr. Abner Hoage reported the LEPC continues to see really good participation with 15 to 20 participants at each meeting. The EPA asked for their Tier II report when they came to Ketchikan to do a site visit on several of the processing plants in August. He reported they have finished the updates to their hazard mitigation plan and area waiting for sign-offs. Next week they have an ICS 300 class scheduled. The CERT team is talking about doing a CERT basic course. With respect to their all-hazard warning system, they have two existing grants to add two more sirens in the next couple months. They also had the earthquake cabin visit. In conjunction with that visit, they put together a community preparedness fair. The CERT team participated in that fair as well as they did an event at a senior resource fair. He stated that they are always looking for give-away items for outreach, so they purchased USB drives with funding from last year and on one side they put their LEPC logo and on the other is a QR code and the web address for the page on the city website that has preparedness information. When those are handed out, they can have information specific to the targeted population.

Northern Southeast LEPC – Ms. Linda Van Houten reported the earthquake simulator visited them August 28 which happened to be a very busy day in Skagway. They held some preparedness activities in conjunction with the quake cabin's visit. The cabin also visited Haines. Other activities included the Red Cross holding pillow case training in early October. They did a preparedness flier. They put together a citizen's preparedness guide targeting the population that just comes for the summer. They found that they need to have more public awareness about the siren. Upcoming events include Red Cross shelter training in March, as well as doing a community inventory on other potential shelters. They continue to work on their emergency operations plan update.

Copper River LEPC – Ms. Laura Thiesen reported they had received some training classes from DHS&EM, including for the community operations plan as well as some hazardous material training. They are working on putting together a hazardous spill response team. They reviewed their 2016 goals and developed their 2017 goals. They reviewed their bylaws. They are encouraging the community to work with the LEPC to develop the SCERPS. They have had increased participation in the LEPC. They located emergency PSAs and provided them to the local radio station who has agreed to air them. During disaster preparedness month they used Facebook, the website, and the local newspaper to propose the theme Don't wait, Communicate. They developed a display at the local IGA to create a seven-day home disaster kit. They are planning a radio interview to get information out on how to prepare for a disaster. They have encouraged participation in the Great Alaska Shakeout. They are updating their hazardous mitigation plan. They were planning for a mock disaster for September that involved a bus and a tanker and a hazardous spill, but in August they had a local disaster with an RV and a bus, so they got to practice ahead time, so they used their September training to look at what they learned from the August event. They treated 13 people and medivacked 7. In addition, in the middle of that response they had a psych patient come in. They have scheduled some training for responder ready, emotional first aid, and are working with the Red Cross and Crossroad Medical Center to partner with bringing the pillowcase project into Glennallen.

Aleutian/Pribilof Islands LEPC – Mr. Scott Brown reported in May they held a triennial airport exercise with DOT. Objectives were to test and evaluate the notification and dispatch process, secure scene, limit

access, protect evidence for pending investigations, test and evaluated DOT's fire response and connections with city fire apparatus, as well as test and evaluate the ability to locate and extract the patients and start emergency services. The exercise went well. The take-aways included communication, so they are working on improving inter-agency communications. From the Alaska Shield exercise they discovered gaps in the EOC. They are restructuring the EOC, and are upgrading their site 1 EOC. Scott Nelson from DHS&EM came in and did a three-day training on emergency EOC. At their June LEPC meeting they discovered they had some public seats they needed to fill, so they are working on that. They also identified that they need to try to improve and increase partnership with Aleutian and Pribilof partners. Adak and Atka participated in the August meeting. The LEPC sent Adak and Atka outreach information on tsunami and earthquake which they distributed. In September they conducted an exercise in September to test the Emergency Towing System which again was a multi-agency exercise. There was a community health fair in September where they partnered with API and the community and were able to do outreach to communities, distribute literature and discuss emergency preparedness. Throughout the year they do outreach in the community for CRASE, which is being prepared for active shooter events.

Mat-Su LEPC – Mr. Casey Cook reported they continue to meet every other month with excellent attendance. They schedule an educational presentation at every meeting, including presentations by the 103<sup>rd</sup> Civil Support Team, Alaska National Guard, and others. Several vacant seats have recently been filled with only a few government-designated seats remaining vacant. They have been busy with public education and outreach, including a Willow community preparedness fair, as well as one in Sutton, and other events. The annual emergency preparedness expo was moved this year to the Menard Sports Complex with more than 1,000 people attending. With respect to emergency planning activities include annual review updates to the borough's EOP and Mat-Su Regional Medical Center's hazard analysis. The Chickaloon Tribal Council is developing its all-hazard mitigation plan. The State's Tier II electronic reporting database is up and running. Mat-Su did not get 100 percent of reports electronically submitted this year, but expect more will be more next year.

North Slope Borough LEPC – Ms. Heather Seemann is the new emergency manager for the borough. She reported the assembly approved the ordinance for the changes to the municipal code to .32 dealing with disaster assistance agency which is now the North Slope Borough Office of Emergency Management. There are also some specific changes in regard to LEPC membership. With respect to the village health fairs and outreach, the LEPC has been represented at health fairs in seven of the eight villages of the borough with the eight scheduled in November. They participated in exercise involving a take-off/abort on an Alaska Airlines 737 with 77 casualties. Conoco Phillips is doing a winter drilling project involving an exploratory well 2-1/2 miles from Nuiqsut, and has been helping Nuiqsut develop their SCERP. The North Slope Borough Search and Rescue Department got a Sikorsky S-92 helicopter. They are exploring the potential of creating some pre-packaged pallets that contain some general disaster response supplies for rapid deployment to the villages. Operation Lonesome Dove is an exercise being developed at the hospital and is scheduled for June. Ms. Seemann discussed some of the presentations that had been made at LEPC meetings, including one in July by Hailey Squantz (?) about pets in disaster. She reported that they are exploring the potential of putting together some adult-specific packages containing information, as well as some youth-specific packages. In August the assembly adopted the North Slope Borough local all-hazard mitigation plan. The North Slope Borough emergency operations center construction is nearly complete.

Kodiak LEPC – Mr. Jack Maker reported it has been quiet in Kodiak. They are still in the recovery stage of rebuilding the Chiniak library after the fire last year. The burned timber has been logged. There was a

cannery fire at one of the smaller canneries that was handled by the fire department and did not require ramping up the EOC. He will be talking to the owner about Tier II reporting requirements. There has recently been some flooding in the Bells Flats area. With respect to outreach, their Crab Festival event was very successful. He thanked Mat-Su LEPC for sending them their disaster trivia plinko game. They held an open house at the Women's Bay Fire Department to show off the new shelter addition. They have had Red Cross field shelter training at the new facility, followed by at a shelter exercise. They plan to print off copies of the local emergency preparedness pamphlets in Tagalog and Spanish. They plan to hold an ICS 300/400 course in late November or early December. They have also held a couple tabletop exercises in the EOC. Fire Chief Milliken obtained a grant to upgrade the EOC. Mr. Maker stated that they have LEPC members who are into the 300 and 400 level training and would like to be part of the incident management team. One issue is how to vet them. Currently the team consists of city and borough staff.

Wrangell LEPC – Ms. Jamie Roberts thanked DHS&EM for providing funding to attend the conference. She reported they held an airport disaster drill in May. The earthquake simulator visited Wrangell and was a highlight. In going to the classrooms to prepare the students before they went out to the simulator, they realized they need to provide some education for earthquake mitigation to some of the teachers. The schools have asked Chad Fullmer to come and do an infrastructure assessment and provide some education. She reported that they are getting together some ICS boxes to provide for some of the IC people in the community. She has asked Jared Woody to consider putting together flash drives containing a spreadsheet with hot links to all the forms that each position might need. Ms. Roberts reported they no longer have a public health nurse in Wrangell, so they are working on building a partnership with the Petersburg public health nurse. She has also been working on a partnership with the Salvation Army. She also reported that they were using the Code Red reverse 911 notification system as their only form notification in the past. The local hospital funded this, but have now lost that funding so they no longer have that system, so they are now either looking for funding for it or come up with an alternative notification system. Recently the community had a crisis with the ability to provide treated water to the community. The city leaned on the LEPC to provide some guidance, including who to contact. She believes there will be some ICS training coming up soon for the city. She attended some HMEP training and a hazardous materials training exercise in Petersburg.

Nome LEPC – Mr. Tom Vaden reported they have been working on adding to the LEPC, expanding it to include more NGOs. For the first time they had a large cruise ship come through this year. They learned a lot from this. They held several exercises in the past six months, including an oil spill FTX, a medical surge FTX. There have been two search and rescues. During Arctic Chinook, they held a patient-forward movement tabletop exercise at the hospital. They also did a mass sheltering exercise within the City of Nome. It was excellent training as they were down to the tertiary levels of who was responsible. There were many lessons learned. During Arctic Chinook they also learned the limitations of the local bandwidth at the EOC. With respect to Tier II, they are finding that I-GAP in small communities does not deal with Tier II. He hoped the I-GAP coordinator for the region will come to the LEPC more. There is a health fare October 21. They are trying to coordinate some PIO training for both the city and the health corporation. He reported that their health care providers who are EMS have ICS 100, 200, 700 and 800 training. The more experienced ones are getting ICS 300 training. The Red Cross did a mass sheltering training. They are doing an active shooter exercise in the hospital in December. Currently the City of Nome has two disaster response packages in Nome that they can launch. Within an hour they can launch tents, equipment, and medical equipment to take care of 24 casualties. Within four hours they can launch a second disaster response package to take another 24 casualties. The hospital is now looking at also having disaster response packages. He stated that there are also five communities that have smaller disaster response packages and

could probably launch within four to six hours. He felt they need to rebuild these.

Petersburg LEPC – Ms. Sandra Dixon reported they continue to work on the conversion of their disaster response to make it an emergency operation plan. Their three-year training and exercise plan has been submitted to the State. She attended the demonstration of Alert Sense for the possible replacement of their Code Red system. They met with DOT officials regarding updates to their airport emergency response plan. They participated in a DHS&EM workshop/tabletop exercise in April for Southeast Alaska in Sitka. They worked with a local mapping technician and spillman (?) regarding Tier II information integration into the new CAD system. She participated in a port security meeting with the Coast Guard. They collaborated with Kake regarding a siren warning system, and evacuation planning. They distributed preparedness information and set up informational booths during the community health and safety fair, a fire department family activity night, the May Fest Festival, and a community fun day. In conjunction with the earthquake simulator they held a small preparedness fair with participation by multiple agencies and businesses. At the same time DHS&EM conducted an ICS for small communities training, and hazardous materials contingency planning presentation, followed by a tabletop exercise. In September they participated in a planning process and exercise of an ammonia release scenario with the hospital. They worked with a local mapping technician for evacuation maps and emergency siren locations. They hope to get two additional sirens. They worked with the schools to coordinate emergency response. There are two individuals in the community who are ham operators. They are willing to participate in case of emergency. She is trying to convince them to teach younger people.

Bristol Bay LEPC – Mr. Stephen Jones stated he enjoys hearing what is going on in all the LEPCs. He stated that they have completed SCERPs for all three of their communities. The port director has been pushing for and they are now planning a spill response type activity. Delta Western and the electric company already do one.

Kenai LEPC – Mr. Scott Walden reported that attendance remains high at the quarterly meetings. Some new industry people have come in and made presentations to the LEPC. These new companies have been invited to participate more fully in the LEPC. Letter will be going out to some of the more absent seats on the LEPC, primarily in the transportation companies. Some new annexes have been suggested, so they have decided to start doing some training, for example, the joint information system which was a big deal in their after-action from Alaska Shield. They have begun planning with State, Federal, and local agencies as well as industry representatives for a large-scale disaster geared specifically towards the joint information. In the end they hope to have a draft annex that any partner can pick up and have a check list to go through. The City of Kenai's airport did their full-scale exercise, and they recently revised their emergency response plan for the airport. At the borough level, they finished housekeeping revisions in their EOPs and hazard mitigation plans. They are working with the new city administration personnel to help them understand what their roles are and how it fits together. With respect to the summer storms, the Weather Service has been accurate in their predictions of what can be expected in the areas, as well as thorough in contacting and staying in touch with them throughout the prospective storm dates. This has allowed them to pre-position resources. A small mitigation project was done in a planned fashion by the flood service area in the Seward/Bear Creek area that reduced the flooding onto the roadway during the June floods. They watched over the next two storms to see what damage was done to the mitigation projects versus did the mitigation projects do what they were expected to do and reduce damage downstream, which happened. There was 70 percent damage to the project but almost no damage to the surrounding area. They continue to do approximately quarterly CERT trainings in different communities on the Peninsula.

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Southern Southeast LEPC – Mr. Brian Templin reported they also took advantage of the visit by the earthquake simulator. They held a preparedness fair at the same time. On the planning side, the City of Craig has been revising its emergency operations plan. The LEPC has been involved in the Craig City School District crisis planning committee. They just completed the first draft of the Department of Education mandated update to the crisis response plans. The Craig Tribe recently finished its all-hazards mitigation plan and is awaiting the final review from FEMA.

Sitka LEPC – Mr. Dave Miller reported they have done a lot of what everyone else has. When the earthquake simulator was there, the police were involved along with the fire department and others. He reported they have started an incident management team which responds to every search and rescue call as well as anything above a traffic stop. He discussed the two dams they have in Sitka and the problems that arose that they are in the process of fixing.

- A. Vote for Co-Chair (Brian Templin's seat)

**Jack Maker, Kodiak LEPC, MOVED to nominate Abner Hoage as Co-Chair of the LEPCA. MOTION passed unanimously.**

- B. Community Resiliency Team – Ann Gravier, DHS&EM, reported on the activities of the new Community Resiliency Team. It is formed under the DHS&EM Planning Section with a team lead and two emergency management specialists. They have yet to hire the team lead. The team also manages Alaska Partnership for Infrastructure Protection, (APIP). The other parts of the Division, including the leadership, provide input and coordination and collaboration for the team. One of the basic concepts of resiliency is to break down program functional stovepipes and accessing all the capabilities across an organization. The team's functions and expectations include advising leadership on the integration of resiliency concepts into the Division's programs; serving as a resiliency advisor to the direction and deputy director, including working with the Denali Commission, the Arctic Steering Group, and the Climate Change Working Groups; address community resiliency issues in an integrated fashion across State, Federal, regional, and interagency programmatic lines using established strategic processes which includes analyzing needs, gaps, and solutions; broadening the scope of the Division beyond FEMA programs to include consideration for vulnerable populations; risk assessment, capital projects, socio-economic, and capacity building; collaborating with the Preparedness Section to plan, design, and implement real resiliency workshops; to research potential grant opportunities and conduct grant management to include helping to manage the NOAA grant program. In response to Co-Chair Templin, Ms. Gravier stated that the local area can contact the team with a question such as do you know a partner we can get to address this need. The team can help focus the answer back. The team's role is to be engaged across agencies.

Mr. Fisher stated that the rural outreach workshops will be a series of meetings leading up to it and a couple sets of workshops on resiliency. They are looking for where next to have rural workshops. They have identified the Bethel area and the Northwest Arctic for the first two.

- C. Glacier Bay Landslides – Gabriel Wolken, DNR, was not able to attend the LEPCA meeting but will be presenting at the SERC meeting in the afternoon.
- D. Social Media in Disasters – Julie Harvey stated that she was subbing for Jennifer Castro, Anchorage Police Department, who was busy with incidents occurring due to the first snow of the season. Ms. Harvey is the lead of the public information center for the Municipality. One of the things they use in Anchorage is NIXLE. She talked about NIXLE and how it works to send out alerts or warnings on behalf of public safety entities, as well as the use of Twitter and Facebook. She stressed that they need to make sure information is updated. In addition with the give and take on social media, in a disaster you have to have somebody monitoring that. It provides information on the perceptions of people. You need to make sure you get the correct information out. She stated that they

have taken people from other departments within the Municipality and trained them in the public information center. They will be the information gatherers for public information. You need to have someone monitoring social media in order to stop misinformation from going out. She stated that you also need to develop the ability to put out social media. Mr. Maker stated that the FEMA and other notification numbers should be up and visible at outreach booths. He agreed that it was important to monitor social media, and not necessarily just in emergencies. He also stressed not to respond to the comments. Mr. Keeney they have two of their PIOs constantly watching social media. He added that if you put it out that there are certain times information is going to be updated, social media responds to it. He stated that if you do social media and watch it, keep it updated as quickly as possible, your disaster will be a lot less of a hassle as far as the media or people in town. Mr. Paschall felt it was great that they embrace multiple means of communication, but you need to be careful.

VIII. **MEMBERS CLOSING COMMENTS - OPEN FORUM**

Mr. Keeney thanked Co-Chair Templin for his service as co-chair. Ms. Roberts also thanked Co-Chair Templin, as did Mr. Maker who also congratulated to Mr. Hoag on his election. Co-Chair Miller also thanked Co-Chair Templin. He added that the best part of these meetings is hearing what the other LEPCs are doing. He also appreciated what the Division does for them. Co-Chair Templin thanked everyone for being there, and he agreed with Co-Chair Miller regarding hearing what others are doing. It is a great source of information for them to take back to their own communities. He also thanked the Division. He also thanked DHSS for the conference.

IX. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.